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Mr. Benton, as his title implies, aims only to touch part of the field.

Mr. Esarey's paper occupies 158 pages, but, as he says in his preface, the subject is much too large for this limit. Nevertheless, within that limit he has succeeded in setting forth very strikingly the kernel and substance of that particular chapter of our history which is always called up by the words "Internal Improvement"—namely, the period of our notorious craze culminating in the act of 1836 whereby the State paternally undertook to build an elaborate system of improved transportation routes, whereby the land and all the inhabitants thereof were to be made prosperous and happy. What came of that paternalism, with its unwise and its graft, its politics and its eager feeding at the public crib, ought to be put in the form of a simple text book and passed around among those optimistic people who think that paternalism is the panacea for all human ills. As worked out by Mr. Esarey, the documents in the case are big with lessons for posterity up to the present date, and it is probable that the lessons ought to be heeded for a good while yet in spite of the growth of the new conscience in civic affairs.

We can not here give to Mr. Esarey's admirable piece of work the space that it ought to have. Suffice to say, it will be appreciated by those students who have long been awaiting some such presentation.

An interesting map by Mr. E. V. Shockley, of Indiana University, shows the old State system of internal improvements. We would suggest that if the map had a key or legend it would help to a quicker understanding of the various tracings. We note, also, that the monograph is not indexed. We believe this is a mistake. When the pamphlet is bound up with others it will be covered by a general index, but a study like this, which will be much used for reference, might well, for greater convenience, have its own compact index.

The pamphlet can be had of The Bobbs-Merrill Company for fifty cents.

G. S. C.

A NEW INDIANA BOOK.

Any book on Indiana based on real study and honestly executed ought to be welcomed, for it promotes an interest in our own State that is much to be desired. "The Story of Indiana and Its People,"

by Robert J. and Max Aley, while it is a contribution to a field already occupied, i. e., the presentation of this subject for juvenile readers, yet brings our history a step nearer to the school children of the State by reason of its arrangement as a text book in compact topical paragraphs. Whatever may be said of the defects of this arrangement as compared with a free and flowing narrative, it seems necessary in order to meet the exigencies of pedagogy as pedagogy has been developed. Such a method is more than apt to produce a mere dry and forbidding skeleton, but these authors have unusually well succeeded in putting sap and interest into the story. The various phases of our history throughout its span are well presented and, in the main, in just proportion. Of particular interest are four historical charts showing the old French portages between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi river, the land claims of the thirteen original States, the elements of population and their distribution in the Northwest Territory, and the route taken by John Morgan in his famous Indiana raid. Another map of curious interest is that of the Northwest Territory as divided into the ten States proposed by Jefferson, with their sounding Latin names.

One criticism we would make is on the presentation of the word Hoosier and its origin. Since J. P. Dunn's exhaustive study of that vexed subject, as published in volume IV of the Indiana Historical Society pamphlets, the origin and meaning of the term may be considered as fairly established. In Mr. Aley's paragraph on "The Probable Origin" there is no recognition of Mr. Dunn's study, but place is given, instead, to the old floating traditions, which are essentially absurd.

As a handy little reference book for the library shelf the Aley volume is to be recommended. It is published by O. P. Barnes, Chicago. Price, 80 cents.

G. S. C.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Dr. G. B. Kuykendall, of Pomeroy, Washington, desires information regarding the Kuykendall family in Indiana. Some of the family settled in southwestern Indiana, perhaps Knox county, he thinks, at a very early day, and still others in Vigo county. If any one having knowledge of this family will communicate with Dr. G. B. Kuykendall at the address above given it will be appreciated.